

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 08271 211855Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13

ACDA-07 AID-05 MC-02 /087 W

-----211858Z 027547 /53

O P 211830Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 854

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 8271

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, CG, FR

SUBJ: SHABA INVASION: FURTHER QUAI COMMENT

REF: PARIS 8034

1. QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR AFRICA DE LA ROCHERE TOLD US MAR 21 THAT THE FRENCH HAVE HAD NO SOLID INFORMATION ON CHANGES IN THE MILITARY POSITION IN SHABA OVER THE WEEKEND. THE IMPRESSION IS THAT THERE HAS NOT BEEN MUCH MOVEMENT, ALTHOUGH THE ZAIRIANS CLAIM TO HAVE RETAKEN KISAJI. IF SO, THE FRENCH BELIEVE THEY MET NO RESISTANCE THERE.

2. ON THE DIPLOMATIC SIDE, THE FRENCH HAVE HEARD NOTHING MORE ABOUT ZAIRE'S PROPOSED OAU INITIATIVE SINCE THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR RELAYED PARIS' APPROVAL ON SATURDAY. LA ROCHERE HAD NOT BEEN AWARE OF NGUZA'S APPARENT SUCCESS IN STIMULATING NIGERIAN ACTION BUT EXPRESSED PLEASURE WHEN INFORMED ABOUT IT. HE NOTED THAT NIGERIA HAS GOOD RELATIONS WITH NETO; THAT FACT, PLUS NIGERIA'S SIZE, MADE IT A MORE FEASIBLE INTERMEDIARY  
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THAN A COUNTRY LIKE IVORY COAST. THE FRENCH CANVAS OF FRANCOPHONE AFRICAN REACTIONS TO THE INVASION CAME OUT MUCH AS EXPECTED, HE SAID. WHILE ALL REPLIES ARE NOT YET IN, MAURITANIA, SENEGAL, IVORY COAST, TUNISIA AND GABON, INTER ALIA, HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR SUPPORT FOR ZAIRE TO THE FRENCH.

3. THE SHIPMENT ON AN AIR ZAIRE SHUTTLE PLANE OF THE 22

TONS OF MUNITIONS THE FRENCH PROMISED THE ZAIRIANS IS  
PROCEEDING. HOWEVER, LA ROCHERE NOTED, FOR THE MOMENT  
THE FRENCH PLAN NO ADDITIONAL DELIVERIES. REPLYING TO A  
QUESTION, HE SAID THAT SO FAR, THE ONLY REAL MEDIA CRITICISM  
WHICH HAS COME TO HIS ATTENTION WAS IN L'HUMANITE, AND THAT THE  
PUBLIC OPINION ASPECT OF FRENCH INVOLVEMENT HAS NOT YET  
BECOME A SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM.

GAMMON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PROGRESS REPORTS, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, INVASIONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
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